PROCEEDINGS

OF THE

NEW JERSEY HISTORICAL SOCIETY.

Vol. II. 1847. No. 4.

FREEHOLD, *September 16th*, 1847.

THE SOCIETY met, according to adjournment, at this place, the President in the Chair; the first Vice President being also present.

The Corresponding and Recording Secretaries being absent,* Mr. Amzi C. McLean was appointed Secretary *pro tem.*

The Chairman of the Executive Committee stated that he had received letters from a number of the members of the Society giving reasons for their absence.

The Rev. D. V. MCLEAN, in behalf of Ex Gov. Haines, presented and read to the Society an interesting manuscript lettter from Richard Stockton, Esq, of Princeton, grandfather of the present Commodore, addressed to Robert Ogden of Elizabethtown, dated Sept. 13th, 1765; refering to public affairs, which was listened to with much interest.

Gen. WALL gave notice of an amendment to the constitution to be acted on at the annual meeting, viz: strike out the following—"The Library and Cabinet of the Society shall be located in the City of Newark in the County of Essex," and insert the following, "The Library and Cabinet shall be located in the City of Trenton in the County of Mercer."

Gen. WALL also offered the following resolution, which, after some remarks by the mover, Rev. D. V. McLean and others, was unanimously adopted:

Resolved, That no expenditure of money should be incurred by the

* The Corresponding Secretary was unavoidably prevented from attending the meeting, and the Recording Secretary with all the records and papers was detained on the road, and although great exertions were made to reach Freehold in time for the meeting he arrived too late to participate in the proceedings.

Society with reference to a permanent location of its Library until the next annual meeting.

The Rev. D. V. McLean, one of the Committee of seven appointed by the Society in May last, to procure subscriptions towards a fund, to be expended in obtaining an analytical list or index to documents in the English archives which refer to New Jersey, asked the Society to excuse him from serving on that Committee. Mr. McLean expressed strong doubts whether the amount ($1000) could be raised by private subscription, and expressed a strong conviction that the Legislature of the State would soon make the necessary appropriations Gen. Wall and others expressed similar views, and at the request of members, Mr. McLean withdrew his request, and moved the following resolution, viz:

Resolved, That a Committee of five be appointed to make application to the Legislature at its next session, on the subject of our Colonial documents.

The resolution was adopted, and the chair appointed Gen. Wall, Richard S. Field, G. S. Cannon, Samuel R. Hamilton and Rev. Eli F. Cooley, on said Committee.

Mr. Horror called up the resolution which he offered at the meeting of the Society in May last, viz:

Resolved, That no expenditure of money to this Society shall be made exceeding $60, without a vote of said Society sanctioning said expenditure.

After some remarks by the Chair, and Messrs. Field, Hornor, McLean and others, the resolution was laid on the table until the next meeting of the Society.

Rev. D. V. McLean presented, for the inspection of the Society, a very old Quadrant, said to be that used on board the old ship Caledonia. Gen. Wall stated his belief that there was still in existence, probably in the possession of some person in the vicinity of Allentown, in Monmouth County, a manuscript account of the first voyage of the Caledonia to our shores, with a list of the emigrants: that at one time it was in the possession of the late Gen. Rhea, and from his estate passed into the hands of the late Robert Montgomery. He expressed the hope that these papers might yet be recovered.

On motion of General Wall,

Resolved, That the thanks of the Society be tendered to the citizens of Freehold for their hospitality, and the great interest they have manifested in the objects of the Society.

The Chairman of the Executive Committee was requested to de-

signate some gentlemen in Trenton to make arrangements for the next meeting of the Society on the third Thursday of January next—to which time and place it then adjourned.

LETTER FROM RICHARD STOCKTON TO ROBERT OGDEN,

THE ORIGINAL OF WHICH WAS PRESENTED TO THE SOCIETY BY GOV. HAINES.

PRINCETON, *Sept. 13th*, 1765.

DEAR SIR:—I received yours respecting Capt. Lacy, and shall conduct myself in that matter as you request. I confess that I am much concerned about the present state of our public affairs. You see the spirit that the Stamp Act has raised throughout the Colonies. The people certainly ought to complain when they are oppressed. The unbounded license of some to the eastward, ought to be discountenanced by every friend of his country; yet, the Stamp Act cannot be extended here but in diametrical opposition to our Constitution; therefore, I am humbly of opinion that the Representatives of the people ought not to be silent. They ought to complain constitutionally—they should complain to the King, not to the Parliament, whose authority they do not, and ought not to acknowledge. Upon mature deliberation, therefore, I think that our Assembly ought to send deputies to the Congress to be held this fall at New York. If your House does not do it, we shall not only look like a speckled bird among our sister Colonies, but we shall say implicitly that we think it no oppression.

I always approved, you know, of your not petitioning the Parliament. That was, in my opinion, a very strong step. It was acknowledging some authority they had over us; but humbly and sensibly petioning the King, I think, might be of great service; and I doubt not, if there is such a change in the Ministry as may be expected, but the Act will be repealed. Suppose you should apply to half a dozen members, and sign a request to the Governor to call you immediately, that you may reconsider the propriety of sending deputies to New York. This, all of love to my country, and regard to the House of Assembly, especially it's Speaker, I suggest. Burn my

letter after reading it over twice, and considering it maturely. I wish I had one hour with you this week, but I cannot.

Adieu, and believe me your respectful friend and most obedient servant, RICHARD STOCKTON.

Addressed " To Robert Ogden, Esq., at Elizabethtown."

" Mr. Hamell is desired to deliver this."

JOURNAL

OF

LIEUTENANT EBENEZER ELMER,

OF THE THIRD REGIMENT OF NEW JERSEY TROOPS IN THE CONTINENTAL SERVICE.

Continued from Page 146.

German Flats, *Wednesday, July* 17, 1776.

Wednesday, July 17*th*, 1776.—Got up and exercised, when Parson Caldwell came out with Schuyler's Chaplain, who prayed with us. After parading some time, we dismissed the men and went to breakfast. The Court Martial sat again according to their adjournment, and proceeded to the consideration of the prisoners, when they were sentenced, the Corporals to be reduced to the ranks and confined seven days on bread and water. After being dismissed from the Court Martial and getting dinner, went with Lieut. Gifford, who having been with twenty of our men to wait on the General over the river, had returned up the hill, when about twenty of the Seneca Indians, who have just arrived here assembled for a dance. They were all naked, except their private parts, which were wrapped round with woolen cloth and all painted with different colors, most of them black in the face; round their necks and legs were many curiosities, as wampum and beads, with shells tied in bundles to jingle when they danced. Their music was a keg with a sheep skin for the head, and

a man striking with one stick, most of them singing at the same time and beating two sticks together; at the conclusion of each dance every one hooted and yelled as loud as possible and drank a dram out of a brass kettle, which they kept full of rum, till many of them got quite drunk. These antics they continued with intervals now and then, all the afternoon and most part of the night.

Among the Seneca Indians came a man who has been for some time in Niagara. He says about the 4th of May if any forces had been there, Col. Butler would have surrendered the fort without firing a gun, as they had been out of provisions near three months, except what they could get themselves; but now have a supply that will last them two years. There is not, however, but 2 or 300 soldiers there, and the Indians could not be persuaded to stay with them only by their keeping them constantly drunk. The fort is exceedingly well fortified, which will be much against us unless we can cut off all communication and so starve them out. He likewise informs us that a number of Sir John's men perished for want of provisions, on their march to Oswego Lake, at the head of St. Lawrence.

At P. M. parade, Corporals Lummis, Parker and Charles Cosgrove were brought out and ordered by Capt. Bloomfield to return to their duty in the ranks and behave like good soldiers for the future. The Corporals have the promise, by my request, of being reinstated in 7 days. Many spectators were present at exercise, when I put the men through most of the manœuvres, and they perform much better than what they did when they first joined us. Capts. Veeder and Vosburgh, of Col. Wyncoop's company, ordered by General Schuyler to join us and be subject to the same duty, they attended at the Captain's markee. I was introduced to, and had considerable discourse with them, after which went and drank tea with the Captain. The nights here are much cooler than in the Jerseys, and foggy. Almost every morning a fog rises from the river and mountains in large clouds and falls down in dews like a fine rain. If it does not fall in dews in the morning, it does generally in rain in the afternoon—verifying the saying of the Psalmist. Psalms 144: 8th verse—"*They go up by the mountains—they go down by the valleys into the place which thou hast founded for them.*"

We find, by being acquainted with the people here, that altho' the place here has a good name, yet there are some Tories amongst them. Most of the inhabitants on this river are Dutch, and many of them speak three languages, viz: German, Indian and English, though the latter but very badly.

Thursday, July 18th, 1776.—Arose early. At 6 the drums beat for parade, when I went out and exercised the men. A large number of the Indians attended, and when we came to charge and volley, and retreating promiscuously, they laughed and seemed much pleased with our proceeding. Dismissed the men after parade without prayers. The Indians drawing the provisions to the number of 2 or 300 of them. Upon the other companies being ordered to join us, the following orders were given out to-day:

"*July 18th*, 1776.

"PAROLE GENERAL HEARD.

"Officer of the day, to morrow Lieut. Pendleton.

"Capts. Veeder's and Vosburg's companies being ordered by Major Gen. Schuyler to join the troops and do duty in garrison, are hereby directed to attend roll call and exercise in camp at the beat of the drum, morning and evening.

"Capt. Bloomfield's company will form on the right at their usual place, Capt. Veeder's on the left, Capt. Vosburg's on the right of the centre, and Capt. Isenlard's on the left of the centre.

"In case of any alarm, all the companies will immediately form and repair to the church and parade within the stockade, where they shall be properly supplied with ammunition and receive farther orders.

"The Orderly Serjeant of the day from every company will attend at the Serjeant's *call* precisely at ten o'clock, in order to make returns of their companies and receive the orders of the day from Mr. Thomas, appointed Adjutant for the time being.

"The guards will consist of 3 Serjeats, 2 Corporals and 40 Privates—11 from Bloomfield's, 10 from Veeder's, 8 from Vosburg's and 11 from Isenlard's companies. A Serjeant and 4 men from my company will hereafter attend the General by day.

JOS. BLOOMFIELD.

* * * * * * *

The General was out with the guard attending him, looking out for a proper place to fortify. Rain in the afternoon and night. Had no parade at all, guard mounting was performed in the church without any drums beating previous thereto. The night very rainy and dark.

Friday, July 19th, 1776.—The drums beat and the men attended roll soon after, when they were dismissed on account of the rain. Spent the day in walking about, hunting, &c. The Aid-de-Camp, Mr. Caldwell and others, were measuring the ground, taking the bearings of the houses, barns, &c., within the encampment, for informa-

tion to the General in respect to fortifying, which we expect to go about in a few days.

"Head Quarters, German Flats, *July* 19*th*, 1776.

"General Orders.

"First Lieut., Robert Hagan, and Second Lieut, Samuel Hazlett, both of the 3d New Jersey Regiment, commanded by Col. Elias Dayton, being by sickness rendered incapable of doing duty in the regiment, and having requested leave to resign their commissions, the General has accepted their resignation; which, causing a vacancy and promotion in the regiment, the General has been pleased to promote 2d Lieut. Wm. Gordon to the rank of 1st Lieut. Ensigns Joseph Anderson and Cornelius Hennion to the rank of 2d Lieuts, in the said regiment. He has also been pleased to appoint Messrs. Edmund Disney, Thomas and John Kinners, volunteers in said regiment, to be Ensigns therein. By order of General Schuyler.

JAMES VAN RENSSELAER, Aid-de-Camp."

"*July* 19*th*, 1776.

"Parole—The State of New Jersey.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Solsberry. Guards as usual."

Capt. Launcing, belonging to the New York forces now raising, being up here was ordered to-day by the General to repair with all possible speed to Albany, and from thence with his company to Ticonderoga to join our army there, by which we had an opportunity of writing to the second battalion. I had not notice of it till a few minutes before he went away, so that I had just time to write a few lines to Capt. Howell, informing him of our situation here, &c.

In the afternoon had a parade at 4 o'clock, when Capts. Veeder's and Vosburg's companies joined us on parade. I exercised the men and put them thro' most of the manœuvres, the spectators, which were a number of gentlemen and officers, were much pleased with our performance. After exercise had prayers and guard mounting, after which I went with Capt. Vosburg, Col. Van Dyke, Lieut. Bates and some others, to take a drink of toddy. Col. Van Dyke very politely returned me thanks and the other officers of our company for our kindness in instructing the soldiers of his battalion in the discipline of war. After drinking awhile, I returned to our tents. The Indians had a very merry dance this evening; but my curiosity being satisfied by my former tour among them, did not go.

Saturday, July 20*th*, 1776.—Got up early and went, according to fulfill a promise made Capt. Vosbarg, by invitation, to take a drink of

egg rum with him; after we had got a drink, he returned with me to the camp, where we went to exercising for some time.

"*July 20th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—MONTGOMERY.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Ensign Thomas. Guards by day 6—by night 12."

Richard Bickerman, an Indian trader mentioned some time back as from Niagara, left the fort under pretence of going out to shoot pigeons, accompanied by his son, a young man; but had previously communicated his design to a few Indians, who conducted him safely. The forces there were in a starving condition for some time, and would have gladly surrendered had any of our forces come against them before the 7th of May, when they got a large supply of provisions from Detroit. It is expected, he says, that Sir John has pushed for Montreal. He, however, suffered much in his march to Oswego Lake and lost several men—some say 15. The Seneca tribe, he thinks, are friendly. They are more attached to us than several tribes nearer to us. They have taken great pains to draw off the few who are at Niagara, but strong liquor is too powerful for their arguments and entreaties.

Tuesday last, in the afternoon, Mr. Dean, the Indian interpreter, and Mr. Kirkland, the Minister that lives amongst the Oneidas, set out for Oneida and Onondaga to hurry the Indians down to the Treaty. Wednesday, arrived 774 Indians, chiefly of the Onenhoghgwago tribe of Oneidas and part Tuscarorars, who, living in the neighborhood, chose rather to accompany them than their own nation. Mr. Crosby, a worthy Minister who is Missionary to those Indians, accompanied them. They are very civil and almost all of them profess the christian faith. They very soon made themselves little houses covered with bark, in which they lodge. In the afternoon, at 4 o'clock, we went on parade with the other companies now here with us.

"HEAD QUARTERS, GERMAN FLATS, *July 20th*, 1776.

"GENERAL ORDERS.

"No Sutler at this place, on any pretence whatever, to dispose of rum or other spirituous liquors to any Indian or other person that shall evidently intend it for the use of the Indians, and all non-commissioned officers and soldiers are hereby strictly enjoined not to purchase any spirituous liquor for the Indians, or to furnish any of them with that article. By order of the General.

JAMES VAN RENSSELAER, Aid-de-Camp."

After parade I went again to see the Indians dance. They were holding their antic before the General's door, painted in the gayest manner with their heads dressed in a very frightful form. There were about 20 of the young warriors who held the chorus; about half kept singing and beating, the others dancing and hooting. At the end of every dance they each took a dram out of a large pail, which was kept full. For spectators there were a large number of Indians and white people, among which was the General, his Aid-de-Camps, and other gentlemen of the army, Commissioners, &c.

Sunday, July 21st, 1776.—Had roll call at 6 A. M. Men were dismissed and ordered to attend at the beat of the drum at 10 o'clock, in order for meeting. At 10 the assembly was beat according to order, and the men formed and went to attend divine worship under the tree. The General, his Aid de-Camps, Mr. Dow, the former Mayor of Albany, and the rest of the gentlemen here were present. After seating ourselves, Mr. Caldwell addressed us from Jeremiah XVII: 5—"*Thus saith the Lord of host, cursed be the man that trusteth in man.*"

From which he showed, first, What was implied in our trusting in man, or putting our confidence in an arm of flesh; 2d, Shewed the vanity and absurdity of such a practice; and, 3d, Endeavored to persuade us to the noble and manly resolution of relying wholly and entirely upon the Lord of hosts for the event and termination of the occurrences and tumults of affairs; at the same time making the most vigorous exertion of the faculties which God has implanted in us to bring them to an happy issue.

After meeting, Mr. Gifford, in compliance to a request from Major Livingston, went and dined with the General. Capt. Dickinson, Lieut. Gordon and Dr. Read came up here from Johnstown to see us. No news by them worth mentioning.

At 4 P. M., meeting was again attended in the same place, when the parson lectured from the XV chapter of the Second Book of Chronicles, being the prophecy of Asariah to Asa, King of Israel, in a time of war and general calamity, endeavoring to inculcate upon him the necessity of casting off iniquities by repentance, and our sins by showing mercy if we would wish to have the Lord on our side, and appear for our deliverance and succor in times of danger and distress. After meeting we paraded round some time, formed battalion and mounted guard.

"German Flats, *July 21st,* 1776.

"Parole—Cato.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Ensign Kinney. Guards as usual."

After the old guard was relieved, I went off and took tea with the Captain and Mr. Caldwell.

Monday, July 22d, 1776.—Turned out upon the parade this morning at 5 o'clock, or before. Paraded, and seeing the General coming over we went and formed to receive him. When he came up our men took their proper distance, and as he passed we gave him the usual salute. At 9 o'clock the whole of our men paraded, and went to work both 'fore and afternoon.

"HEAD QUARTERS, GERMAN FLATS, *July 22d,* 1776.

"GENERAL ORDERS.

"A picquet fortification is to be erected near the church at this place. Capt. Bloomfield will superintend the work, and make a detail of officers and men each company is daily to furnish, and the commanding officer of every corps will accordingly furnish his quota agreeably to such detail. The men to work eight hours each day; to begin and to leave off work at such times as Capt. Bloomfield shall direct. Three pence a day will be allowed to each non-commissioned officer and private in lieu of rum, to encourage them to go on with the work with alacrity and despatch. To be weekly paid by Capt. Bloomfield, who will be furnished with money for the purpose. By order of General Schuyler.

"JAMES VAN RENSSELAER, Aid-de-Camp."

"GERMAN FLATS, *July 22d,* 1776.

"*Rules and Orders for the Working Parties.*

"Every officer and soldier, except those upon guard, shall appear upon the parade in the morning at the revellee beating; at which time such a number of officers and soldiers from each company as may hereafter be directed shall repair to their working posts diligently to labor two hours, and then retire to breakfast.

"After one hour and a half, the whole, as before, parade again and work three hours, when they will be dismissed for dinner.

"After three hours intermission, all to parade again as before, labor three hours more and be dismissed for that day.

"For the fatigue, or working party, Capt. Bloomfield's company will turn out twenty-six privates daily, Capt. Veeder's nine, Capt. Vosburg's six, and Capt. Isenlard's nineteen, the whole consisting of sixty privates. Every fifteen privates are to be officered with one commissioned and two non-commissioned officers, who will turn out and labor as before directed.

"Lieuts. Gifford, Solesbury and Cannon, and Ensign Thomas, will go out upon fatigue with the working party to-morrow."

Had an invitation to dine with the General, which I accordingly did, with the Commissioners, Interpreters and a number of other gentlemen. After dining and drinking a glass of wine or two, I returned in order to prepare for labor, which was executed with courage and activity till 6 o'clock; after which we mounted guard, &c. I was this day appointed Adjutant for the preseut. Col. Dayton, with a Lieut. belonging to the artillery, came down from Fort Stanwix in a batteau. He came over and viewed our works and seemed pleased with our carryings on.

Tuesday, July 23d, 1776.—Got up at the beating of the revellee. Hurried out our men for fatigue according to the orders of yesterday —after some time got them all well to labor.

The following is a brief description of the Indian nations attending the Treaty, by the various accounts I have collected, viz: The five nations consist of so many tribes, or nations, joined together by a league or confederacy like the united Provinces, and without any superiority. They are known and distinguished by the Mohawks, Oneidas, Onondagas, Cayugas and Senecas. The Tuscaroras, after a war it is said they had with the people of Carolina, fled to the five nations, and are incorporated with them; so that now, indeed, they properly consist of six nations. Each of them is again divided into three different arms, viz: the Bear, the Tortoise and the Wolf; the Sachems put that belonging to their tribe to every public paper.

They think themselves by nature superior to the rest of mankind, and assume the name of Ongue honwe; that is, surpassing all others. This opinion gives them that courage which has been so terrible to all the nations of North America; and that opinion they have taken such care to impress on oll their neighbors, that on all occasions they yield to them the most submissive obedience. They have such absolute notions of liberty, that they allow of no kind of superiority, and banish all servitude from their territories.

An old Mohawk Sachem, in a poor blanket and dirty shirt, issues his orders with as arbitrary an authority as a Roman dictator. The authority of their Sachems who govern in all public affairs, as well as that of their Captains, consists wholly, and is only obtained, by the good opinion the nation have of the wisdom and integrity of the former, and of the courage and conduct of the latter; and they loose it by a failure in these virtues.

Their instruments of war are a musket, hatchet and long sharp-pointed knives; these they always carry about with them. The hatchet in war time they stick in their girdle behind; and they have

the art of directing and regulating its motion, so that though it turns round as it flies, the edge always sticks in the tree near the place they aim at. The use of bows and arrows is now entirely laid aside, except among the boys, who use them with surprising dexterity. Their castles or towns are generally a square, surrounded with pallisades, without any bastions or out-works.

They express peace by the metaphor of a tree and fire, and all nations make use of a hatchet or axe as an emblem of war.

Wampum is the current money among the Indians; it is of two sorts, white and purple; the white is worked out of the inside of the great Conch into the form of a bead,* and perforated to string on leather; the purple is worked out of the inside of the muscles of shell; they are wove as broad as one's hand, and about two feet long These they call belts, and give and receive at their Treaties as the seals of friendship; for lesser matters a single string is given. Every bead is of a known value, and a belt of a less number is made to equal one of a greater, by so many as are wanting fastened to the belt by a string.

One hundred of these beads are usually valued at 4s, 200 8s., and so on; and in this manner they trade and barter with each other, and with all that deal with them.

Their dance (which I mentioned 20th instant,) is peformed with such violent exertions of the body, that it seems calculated to inure, to harden, and to render the muscles vigorous. In the midst of the dance one of the chief warriors, a spectator, stepped forward and struck with a stick, which produced a constant pause. In a short speech he related his warlike exploits, the prisoners and scalps taken from other nations, appealing to those who were witness, and then finished with a present of a little paint wrapped up in paper, which he had received from the Commissioners for that purpose. This was received by all with great marks of applause. Some time after another Chief, and then another did in like manner. This custom is intended in the time of their mirth to inspire them with a thirst for war, and an emulation to have the like opportunity publicly to relate their gallant deeds. The Senacas are taller and better proportioned than the other Indians present, or the whites—and from their healthy, fleshy appearance, are more temperate and better fed than the other Indians. Every Indian nation has something peculiar in their own customs and manners different from each other.

* As the Indians live far from the sea, our people make and sell the purple, or exchange them for Beaver skins, &c.; and many, at Albany particularly, make a handsome living by that trade.

The Indians in general are tall and straight in their limbs, beyond the proportion of the whites. Their bodies are strong ; but of such a species of vigor, as is rather adapted to endure much hardship, than to continue long at any servile work : it is the strength of a beast of prey, rather than that of a beast of burden. Their bodies and heads are flattish, the effects of art, for the Squaws carefully brace their children, or papooses, till they walk alone, on a broad board, to which they lace the infant with broad cloths, carrying them on their shoulders in all their journies ; for most of them for the sake of the presents given at the Indian Treaties, take their whole families with them, carrying and lugging such papooses as are unable to walk in this slavish manner. The cottages in the mean time are shut up, and there being no furniture to lose, a string or thong of leather serves for a lock.

Their features are regular, but their countenance fierce ; their hair (those that wear it long) in general very black, lank and very strong ; they have no beards, owing to the custom of continually drawing it out by the roots with twisted wires. The color of their skin, a redish brown, is admired among them, and improved by the constant use of bear's fat and paint ; they in general go naked, except a clout, which they wear to cover their nakedness ; once in a while throwing a blanket over their shoulders. The Squaws dress in the same manner, only they always wear a striped blanket ; striped with red or yellow ferreting, or ribbons, agreeable to their quality in life, and these stripes are generally in the middle of the blanket and covered with silver and brass broaches of all sizes.

Their only occupations are hunting and war. Agriculture is left to the women. Merchandize they contemn. When their hunting season is past, which they go thro' with great vigor, and in which they exert great ingenuity, and their provisions laid up, they pass the rest of their time in an entire indolence. They sleep half the day in their huts ! They loiter and jest among their friends, and they observe no bounds in their eating and drinking. They are excessively fond of spirituous liquors, and the desire of acquiring these is a principal end they pursue in their Treaties with us ; and from this they suffer inexpressible calamities, for having once begun to drink they can preserve no measure, but continue a succession of drunkenness as long as their means of procuring liquor is left. In this condition they lie exposed on the ground to all the inclemencies of the seasons, which waste them by a train of the most fatal disorders. They perish in rivers and marshes, they tumble into the fire, they quarrel and very

often murder each other. And, in short, excess of drinking, although with us highly criminal, is generally not very pernicious in its effects; but with this uncivilized people, who have not heart enough to guard against the consequences of their vices, is a public calamity. The few among them who live free from this evil, enjoy the reward of their temperance in a robust and healthy old age. The disorders which a complicated luxury has introduced amongst us, are strangers to the savages.

The education of Indians from their infancy is solely directed to fit their bodies for this mode of life, and to form their bodies and minds to endure the inflictions of the greatest evil. They accustom their children, as soon as they are able to run alone, to deluging themselves in the waters. I have been greatly pleased and astonished to see how fond their small children are of running into brooks, and their mothers make small bark canoes to divert themselves with, playing with which they continue in the water stark naked for hours together, which so inures their tender bodies to the cold and iclemencies of the weather, that they soon get able to undergo great hardships. This instance of ducking among the savages has fully convinced me of the great utility of the cold bath to children.

As I said before, almost the sole occupation of the Indians is war, or such exercises as qualify him for it. His whole glory consists in this; and no man at all is considered till he has increased the strength of his country with a captive, or adorned his hut with the scalp of one of its enemies. And these scalps are so many evidences or trophies of his bravery.

The character of the Indians is striking. They are grave, even to sadness, upon any serious occasion; observant of those in company, respectful to the old, of a temper cool and deliberate, by which they are never in haste to speak before they have thought well on the matter, and are sure the person who spoke before them has finished all he had to say; they have, therefore, the greatest contempt for the vivacity of our people who interrupt each other and frequently speak all together.

Nothing is more edifying than their behaviour in their public councils and assemblies; every man there is heard in his turn, according as his years, wisdom or service to his country have ranked him. Not a word, not a whisper, not a murmur is heard from the rest whilst he speaks; no indecent condemnation, no ill-timed applause. The younger sort attend for their instruction. Here they learn the history of their nation; here they are inflamed with the songs of those

who celebrate the warlike actions of their ancestors; and here they are taught what are the interests of their country, and how to pursue them.

Their habitations are very small, consisting only of a little cottage, in the middle of which is their fire-place. Here both they and the animals they breed live promiscuously. They have a particular fondness for dogs, and never are without three or four little curs in their huts; a hog or two, and a little poultry, with some earthen ware, as pots and jugs, and the cotton which their wives spin, constitute the whole inventory of an Indian's effects. Their beds consist of two or three sheep skins, without pillows or any thing else; and on these they sleep in their usual squatting posture; and as they never undress, appear always in the same garb.

This description of the Indians, taken mostly from Capt. Bloomfield's Journal, may suffice for the present; if by more frequent intercourse and conversation with them I may be led into any farther light into their customs and manners, it will be inserted promiscuously as time and opportunity may serve.

"ORDERS OF JULY 21ST, 1766.

"The different companies will take notice to make their reports and returns to Lieut. Elmer, who will do the duty of an Adjutant for the time being."

After I had got the men to work, and set the different officers as ordered over them, I went over to the hospital to see the sick, as there is no doctor here now. Several of them are very unwell, and have no medicines except those herbs which can be gathered here, which makes it very troublesome to me amidst my other duties, and impossible to treat them in any regular method.

The men labored very well both 'fore and afternoon according to order, and almost finished the trench round the fortification. After labor at the usual hour the drum beat for roll call, when we had prayers, guard mounting, and dismissed the men.

Wednesday, July 24th, 1776.—Arose this morning at the revellee beating. Paraded the men as soon as possible, which, indeed, is no small trouble early, so called the roll and picked out the working party, and went off with them to labor before any of the officers appointed for fatigue were out except myself. After the officers came I went and visited the sick as yesterday, &c. This day we finished the trench and began to haul the logs for picquets, but for want of axes to square them, could not set them up. Wrote a letter and sent by the express to Col. Newcomb at New York. By whom we are informed matters are all well there.

In the afternoon it rained almost constantly, warm and growing showers; towards night it left off. We mounted guard, &c.

Corporals Parker and Lummis, who were broke by order of a Court Martial as mentioned July 16th, were publicly restored to their former posts at guard mounting. Capt. Sharp came down from Fort Stanwix in the afternoon. No news from there. The Indians were holding a dance this evening at their camp, and it is seldom a night passes but they dance till about midnight if the weather is good, making up for the loss af sleep in the night by sleeping and loitering about great part of the day.

Thursday, July 25th, 1877.—Got up at revellee as before. Got out the working party and went with them to the works; but not having any tools to work with for any more than what was done the evening before, and none of the officers being out, I dismissed the men with orders to be ready to repair to work at any time when the drum should beat; and men accordingly were set to work, soon after, placing the picquets ready for squaring when we can get axes. In the afternoon the Indians had a general ball play—which is performed with sticks crooked at the end with which they strike, and the bend filled up with net-work, with these they knock the ball from one to the other.

The game is won by one's knocking the ball such a number of times beyond the lines fixed upon on the side of his antagonists. At this play were 15 or 20 of each side. The lines fixed were forty or fifty rods apart, and in knocking the ball they showed the greatest dexterity and no less activity and ability of body in continuing to run with great fury over the field for at least two hours, to the reproach of the luxurions whites who are bred in such a delicate and tender manner as to debilitate their constitutions, so as not to be able to endure such laborious exercise even for one half hour. O luxury! thou general source of effiminacy in mankind, what havoc hast thou made among the gayer part of the human race? For spectators at this mighty play were the Colonel, Chaplain, and a number of other gentlemen.

Guard mounting, roll call and prayers were attended at the usual hour. Mr. Gifford was taken very ill this evening with the cholera morbus, which seems to be growing rife in the camp.

Friday, July 26th, 1776.—Got up and went out with the working party very early. Lieut. Gifford being sick, I was obliged to fill his place at work as well as the duties of my own station. This morning began to square, sharpen and set up the picquets in the trench, which we had dug before they came. Our men, together with a party from Col. Cook's militia, worked all day according to the orders in setting

up the pickets. I attended the sick at the leisure hours, and worked with them when at labor.

"*July* 26*th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—PERTH AMBOY.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Salsburry.

"The officer of the day will see that the church is well washed and cleaned by the guard when not on sentry.

"The soldiery will be careful to be more cleanly in and about the camp: for their own ease, comfort and health, this is particularly recommended.

"Lieuts. Pendleton and Cannon, and Ensign Thomas, will attend the party on fatigue. Guards as usual."

In the evening I received by Serjeant Wilkinson a few medicines, and a letter from Dr. Read at Johnstown, which afforded no particular news. Wrote a letter, after the people were all retired to rest, back to Dr. Read. By Serjeant Wilkinson from Johnstown, I am informed of the extreme dissatisfaction of Capt. Dickinson and all his officers and soldiers upon having either Mr. Thomas or Kinney appointed to the rank of Ensign in his company, by which it appears likely their appointments will bn the occasion of a great deal of discontent and division in the regiment. These things ought not to be at this critical juncture of time when life is at stake.

Saturday, July 27*th*, 1776.—Obeyed the usual alarm of the reveillee beat at day break for turning out the working party.

After the men had got to work and properly officered, I went round to visit the sick, which were 16. Returned and made use of the medicines received last night in administering to those who stood in need.

Necessity drove to the following orders—

"*July* 27*th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—TRENTON.

"A Court Martial will sit immediately—whereof Capt. Veeder is President, and Lieuts. Gifford, Pendleton, Cannon and Elmer, are members.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Ensign Thomas."

According to order the Court Martial sat, and reported as follows:

"At a Regimental Court Martial, held by order of Capt. Bloomfield at German Flats, July 27th, 1776.

"Capt. GARRET S. VEEDER, President.

"*Members*—Lieuts. Wm. Gifford,
Do. Pendleton,
Do. Cannon,
Do. Elmer.

"Michael Reynolds, soldier in Capt. Bloomfield's company of Col. Dayton's regiment, accused of lying out of quarters in disobedience of orders, non-attendance at roll call this morning, and attempting to absent himself from the camp without leave.

* * * * * * *

"The Court, taking into consideration the above crimes, do sentence him to be led to the post, stripped and tied thereto for the space of a quarter of an hour, and then be dismissed to his duty, with a stoppage of one week's pay from his wages.

"GARRET S. VEEDER, President.

"I approve of the above sentence, and order it put in execution immediately. JOS. BLOOMFIELD."

At roll call this morning I drew up the men and brought Reynolds out, the Captain and Parson, with several other gentlemen, attended, and after tying him up the Parson addressed us in a very friendly manner, to leave off all such evil practices for our safety in this world and that which is to come; and after he had prayed with us we untied him, when, instead of true penitence, he accused us of acting a partial part; upon which the Captain ordered him immediately under guard, notwithstanding his begging pardon on his knees.

Sunday, July 28th, 1776.—After roll call the men were discharged, and it was recommended to them to attend with their arms at the beat of the drum, in order to march to hear Mr. Kirtland, a Missionary among the Indians, preach to them,—which a number of us accordingly did. When we got there, the Oneidas and some of the Mohawks were sitting round under a tree. Soon after we got there they began divine worship by singing a hymn, at which they excel any white people I ever heard for the melodiousness of their music. After singing the Parson prayed first in English and then in the Oneida language, and preached altogether in Indian. The Indians seemed very attentive and devout in worship. After Mr. Kirtlaed had done, an Indian, who is a head man amongst them, got up and spoke for some time: after which we concluded worship by singing and prayer. The Senecas the whole time were singing and drumming; whilst the others were worshipping God, they were abusing his day, ordinances. and attributes. They hold to the old absurd and atheistical doctrines.

There is one thing remarkable in all the Indians at their dances Let it be of whatever nation, they have one and the same tune which they constantly beat; and yet are exceeding good singers, such of them as are civilized and had an opportunity of learning. I am informed that most of them will learn any tune by hearing it once sung.

In the afternoon, Mr. Caldwell preached to us at the same place, when a number of Indians attended who had some notion of the English language, which many of the Mohawks and Oneidas have. He addressed us from 2d Samuel, 12: 10—"*Be of good courage, and let us play the men for our people and the Cities of our God, and the Lord do what seemeth him good.*"

After tattoo beating at night, I received orders from the Colonel to prepare with all speed to pursue one Jona. Moore, a soldier in Capt. Patterson's company, who was sent out for Fort Stanwix by order of Lieut. McDonald, and supposed to have letters or orders from him to Capt. Patterson and Ross. Something respecting plunder from the Hall, for which he was sent down here. Accordingly, about 10 o'clock two of us set off. I rode a dark, blind road, to which I was entirely a stranger. In about 8 or 9 miles I came to Germantown, which is a small wooden village inhabited by Germans, their houses are small huts covered either with straw or bark. The land is rich and produces plentifully.

I continued to ride on till I arrived at one Thompson's, about 12 miles from the Flats; when I arrived found the man in bed. I turned out my horse, went into the house and searched the lad, but found no letters which would give any intelligence; so about 2 o'clock in the morning I lay down upon the floor and took a nap.

Monday, July 29th, 1776.—Got up from my pine bed very early. Got up our horses, and taking the lad along with me, we returned. When I came to the General's, I waited on him, informing him of my proceedings, and that the lad was present. He called him in, and having nothing farther for me to do, he returned me thanks for my service.

After the General had examined the lad and other matters respecting Lieut. McDonald, he ordered him under arrest, and to continue at his quarters until the President of the Court Martial should call for him previous to his trial.

"GERMAN FLATS, *July 29th,* 1776.

"PAROLE—LIBERTY.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Cannon.

"It is hereby strictly required of every officer, non-commissioned officer and soldier to use their utmost endeavors to discourage and prevent card-playing, and all other gaming for money, or the value of money.

"Gaming of every kind from this time is strictly forbid, and all those who offend in following this pernicious practice, may depend upon receiving the severest punishment."

The Court Martial sitting to-day reported as follows:

"Capt. VOSBURG, President.

"*Members*—Lieut. Pendleton,
Do. Bates,
Do. Salsburry,
Ensign Thomas.

"The Court, after being duly sworn, proceeded to the examination of Michael Reynolds. By the evidence that appeared against him and his own confession, it is the opinion of this Court that the prisoner meant some private persons and not the Court in particular, and consequently shall be returned to his duty.

"The Court Martial taking into consideration John Cook, Luke Jennins and James Newenham, confined and tried for gaming at cards, it is the opinion of this Court that the prisoners shall make each other as good as they were when they began, pay four shillings fine and be returned to their duty.

"HERMAN VOSBURG, President.

"I have considered of the sentences of the Court Martial against the respective prisoners within mentioned, and do approve of the same, except the fines imposed on John Cook, Luke Jennins and Jas. Newenham, which are hereby remitted, except so much thereof as will pay for every pack of cards at the rate of 1s. per pack that is, or will be hereafter, publicly destroyed, by order of the officers of the respective companies in this place, agreeable to the orders of this day.

"JOS. BLOOMFIELD."

The prisoners were brought out to the regiment at guard mounting, and were dealt with according to the sentence above mentioned. Rainy night. Just before evening the Oneidas and Tuscaroras had a great ball play, by which the Tuscaroras won a considerable of value in silver and other curiosities.

Tuesday, July 30th, 1776.—Got up and turned out the working party at the beating of the tattoo.

A general Court Martial sat to-day, by order of Major General Schuyler. Col. VAN DYKE, President.

Members—Major Barber, Capt. Bloomfield,
Capt. Sharp, Capt. Veeder,
Capt. Vosburg, Capt. Eisenlord,
Lieut. Van Rensselaer, Lieut. Tuttle,
Lieut. Flannagan, Lieut. Pendleton,
Lieut. Salsburry, Lieut. Cannon,
Lieut. Eben. Elmer.

Lieut. McDonald, of Col. Dayton's battallion, arrested for behaving unbecoming the character of a gentleman and officer, in taking, or assisting in taking, things from Johnson Hall, the property of Sir John Johnson or other persons unknown, for aiding and abetting others so to do, for concealing things so taken, and for disobedience of orders, is to be tried.

* * * * * * *

After considering matters for some time respecting the charge laid against Lieut. McDonald, the Court finding it impossible to finish the sentence, adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M.

Wednesday, July 31st, 1776.—Got up at reveillee beating, and turned out a party of men for fatigue to labor in the woods cutting pickets.

The Court Martial met according to adjournment and proceeded to the trial of Mr. McDonald.

* * * * * * *

The Court, after concluding upon the sentence of McDonald, adjourned till to-morrow at 9 o'clock, after first appointing Major Barber, Capt. Bloomfield and myself as a Committee to draw up the proceedings and evidences in form and bring them in before the Court Martial to-morrow morning. Busy in the afternoon drawing up the declaration of the Court. Had roll call, prayers and guard mounting as usual.

Thursday, August 1st, 1776.—Turned out the working party at reveillee beating this morning; got the officers out to their duty, got breakfast, and prepared to attend the Court Martial.

Nine o'clock, A. M., Court Martial met according to adjournment, when the Committee appointed to draw up the declaration brought it in, which was read to the Court, approved of, and ordered to be copied and sent to the General, when the Court adjourned till 12 o'clock. Major Barber being appointed to copy the sentence, and with the President to present it to the General.

At 12 o'clock the Court met again. The General having no business to lay before us, we were dismissed till to-morrow at 9 o'clock.

In the afternoon, went and visited the hospital and working party; and a bet being made, I undertook to fetch one hundred stones, laid one yard from each other, till the whole were placed, and won the wager in performing it in 54 minutes.

COPY OF THE GENERAL COURT MARTIAL.

"Before a general Court Martial, July 30th and 31st, and August 1st, by order of Major General Schuyler—whereof the President was Col. Cornelius Van Dyke; members as before mentioned.

"Lt. Wm. McDonald, of Col. Dayton's regiment, stood charged with behaving in a manner unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, by taking or assisting in taking, out of the house of Sir John Johnson, at Johnstown, sundry effects, the property of Sir John, or other persons unknown; and for aiding or abetting others so to do, and for assisting in concealing effects so taken; as, also, for disobedience of orders. To all which the said Lt. McDonald plead not guilty; but was supported by the following evidence, viz;

"Jona Moore, a private in said regiment, being duly sworn, declared, that being at his quarters, he was sent for by Lt. McDonald to Johnstown Hall, where the said Lt. was, who, on that day was officer of the guard; that when he came there, Mr. McDonald took him up into the Hall garret; that Mr. McDonald delivered to him a beaver skin, which the said McDonald wrapped up in a blanket of his own; that McDonald ordered him, in presence of Capt. or Ensign Patterson, to carry it to the said McDonald's room, which the said Moore accordingly did; that the beaver skin was dressed, and there was some paint on it. Jona. Moore farther says, that he saw Lt. McDonald walk about with a cane, which he took from the Hall, and which the said McDonald yesterday told him somebody had taken from him.

"Mr. Alex. Stewart informed the Court upon oath, that he saw Lt. McDonald take a cane with some fish hooks from Johnson Hall; that on the morning Col. Dayton's detachment marched for the German Flats, Capt. Patterson and McDonald took him aside (ordering other persons present to retire,) and requested him to receive in charge some things to be found up stairs in a keg in the house of Mr. Lafferty, things belonging to the Hall, which they said they might as well have as another person; Lt. McDonald told him to bury, or otherwise secrete them: Capt. Patterson told him, if he should go to the Jerseys to carry them with him, if not, to secure them, and that Serjeant Newcastle would assist him in doing so; McDonald ordered him, if Col. White should ask him where these things were, he should answer—Capt. Patterson added, 'in the Hall garden,' where Col. White said they should be placed. Mr. Stewart also declared, that in the keg delivered to his charge, he saw most of the things which Lt. Tuttle brought from Mr. Lafferty's house, in Johnstown, by General Schuyler's orders, and were produced in his presence before the Court. He likewise affirmed that there was a dressed beaver skin, or blanket or two in the keg, which the said Lt. Tuttle did not bring with him.

"Lt. Tuttle on oath, said that the things produced in Mr. Stewart's presence before the Court were things taken out of a keg or barrel found in the house of Mr. Lafferty, and that he also saw two blankets,

the one Beaver, the other an Otter in said barrel, which he left behind.

" Col. Dayton declared on oath, that he heard McDonald say he had taken a cane from the Hall, which he told him a few days ago he had lost; and that McDonald told him he had returned every thing else.

" Major Barber being sworn, informed the Court that McDonald told him a few days ago, he had sent a cane to his father, which he took from the Hall.

" Capt. Bloomfield being sworn, said that McDonald had told him in Johnstown he had returned every thing he had taken from the Hall, except a cane, which he had sent to Albany to the care of a friend.

" Ensign Thomas said upon oath, that he saw McDonald take nothing from the Hall except a cane and some shrub, which he found in an open case up stairs; that McDonald made punch of some there, and took the rest home with him.

" Ensign Kinney being sworn, declared that he saw McDonald take a bow and two arrows from the Hall, which he said he took for Col. White in consequence of his orders.

" The last charge, to wit, disobedience of orders, was supported by the following evidence, viz:

" Col. Dayton informed the Court, on oath, that during his march from Albany to Johnstown, and at Johnstown, he had repeatedly and publicly given to both officers and men Gen. Schuyler's orders, which were to the effect, that the persons and properties of every inhabitant should remain inviolable; that after the Hall had been plundered of sundry effects, he summoned the officers of his regiment to meet him at the house of Mrs. Tice, amongst whom was McDonald, when he insisted in the most pressing terms, nay entreated them by all the principles of honor, as well as obedience to general orders, that every thing so taken by them should be immediately replaced; that a few days after, being of opinion his orders were not complied with, he issued in writing similar orders at Johnstown, and again repeated them at German Flats.

" Capt. Bloomfield on oath, said he remembered Col. Dayton's directing both officers and soldiers on their march to, and at their arrival at Johnstown, to be careful not to molest nor injure the property of the inhabitants, as he had it, in strict command to kold the property of individuals inviolable; that immediately after, Johnson Hall was plundered against General Schuyler's and his express orders. He directed, entreated, exhorted and positively ordered every officer who had taken any goods from the Hall, to return them the ensuing eve-

ning; that afterwards Col. Dayton issued an order in writing for every officer and soldier to be punctual in returning to the Quarter Master or Adjutant every article not already returned to the Hall, agreeable to his former orders.

"Almost to the same purport were the evidences of Major Barber, Capt. Sharp, Lts. Flaningham and Elmer, on oath.

"Whereupon the Court, after the most serious and mature deliberation, were unanimously of opinion, that Mr. McDonald is guilty of the whole charge exhibited against him, and consequently guilty of a breach of the 47th Article for the better government of the Continental Troops; as, also, of the 2d and last Article of the amendment (that clause of the second expressed by the term *fraud* being only excepted): and, therefore, this Court do sentence the said Wm. McDonald to suffer the penalties hereunto annexed."

(Signed,) "VAN DYKE, President."

At roll call Major Livingston attended and read to the troops the following orders:

"Head Quarters, German Flats, *Aug.* 1*st*, 1776.

"General Orders.

"The general Court Martial, apointed on the 29th July, having reported to the General that Lt. Wm. McDonald, of Col. Dayton's regiment, stood charged before them 'with behaving in a manner unbecoming the character of a gentleman and officer, by taking, or assisting in taking, out of the house of Sir John Johnson, in Johnstown, sundry effects, the property of Sir John or other persons unknown, and for aiding and abetting others so to do, and for assisting in concealing effects so taken; as, also, for disobedience of orders.' And that they were unanimously of opinion that Mr. McDonald is guilty of the whole charge exhibited against him, and consequently guilty of a breach of the 47th Article for the better government of the Continental Troops; as, also, of the second and last article of the amendment, (the clause of the second expressed by the term *fraud* being only excepted), and that 'they therefore do unanimously adjudge and sentence the said Wm. McConald to suffer the penalties thereunto annexed; which sentence being approved of by the General and the 47th Article of War referred to in the sentence, declaring that whatsoever commissioned officer shall be convicted before a general Court Martial of behaving in a scandalous, infamous manner, such as is unbecoming the character of an officer and a gentleman, shall be discharged from the service; and the second article declaring that all commissioned officers found guilty by a general Court Martial

of any fraud or embezzlement, shall forfeit all his pay, be ipso facto cashiered, and deemed unfit for farther service.' The General therefore, by virtue of the said sentence and the said articles of war, hereby discharges the said Wm. McDonald from the Continental service, as a person unfit for farther service as an officer, and orders that any pay to him be detained.

"That Mr. McDonald, on application to Henry Glen, Esq., Assist. D. Q. M. General, may have leave to have his baggage conveyed from Fort Stanwix to Schenectacy in any returning boats belonging to the public; but that he be not permitted to go to that post on any pretence whatsoever.

"That Major Livingston, Judge Advocate of the said general Court Martial, read the foregoing to the troops at roll call this evening, in the presence of the said Mr. McDonald.

"The General, with great satisfaction, observes from the proceedings of the Court Martial, that the gentlemen have conducted themselves with a regularity that reflects credit on them; and having no farther business for them, dissolves, and they are dissolved accordingly.

"By order of the General.

"HENRY B. LIVINGSTON, Aid de-Camp."

"German Flats, *August* 1*st*, 1776.

"Parole—Oneida.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Pendleton.

"Officers of fatigue, Capt. Vosburg, Lieuts. Gifford and Cannon, for to-morrow."

Friday, August 2*d*, 1776.—The beat of the reveillee awakened me, tho' fast inclosed in the arms of Somnus, when I turned out the working party and labored with them until breakfast. The Indians, two of each nation, turned out for a race round half mile stakes; three heats without stopping. Much money was staked by the gentlemen who attended, and the whole was graced with the General's presence.

Lt. Wm. McMichael came down here to day from Fort Stanwix; he being just returned from Oswego, where he had been on a scouting party, and finding the Colonel and General were down here, he proceeded right on. As far as I can yet find, there is nobody within the Fort except one regular Serjeant, but the remainder is kept a secret.

"German Flats, *August* 2*d*, 1776.

"Parole—Onondaga.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Salsburry.

"Officers for fatigue, to-morrow, Lieuts. Pendleton, Elmer and Ensign Thomas.

A Regimental Court Martial will set to-morrow at 9 o'clock, A. M, whereof Capt. Jno. Eisenlord is President; Lieuts. Gifford, Bates, Clock and Ensign Kinney are members."

In the afternoon attended the sick, &c. After guard mounting the officers paraded a short time; and after it was over, we all stripped and ran round the stakes. I came out in the centre. Went to rest soon after.

Saturday, August 3d, 1776.—Arose at the break of day, being awakened by the clattering and the rumbling of the drum, who, like the watchful cock, never forgets to teach us when the vigilant ought to arise. Having nothing to do at the fort, I destined 6 men for the forenoon and 6 more for the afternoon to go in the woods to assist in riding pickets to the fort—dismissing the rest to go and wash their clothes. Capt. Potter's soldier who had the small pox in this place, died this morning. * * * * *

Lieut. Bates and myself with about 30 men, 16 of them with arms, went over the river to attend the burial of Capt. Potter's man, who died with the small pox, which we did in a decent manner, firing 3 vollies over his grave. After we returned roll call was attended, when the men were drawn up round the "Adjutant's Daughter," and Edward Cassady was brought out and the following sentence was read to him:

"A Regimental Court Martial held at German Flats, by order of Capt. Bloomfield, August 3d, 1776.

"Capt. EISENLORD, President.

"*Members*—Lieut. Gifford, Lieut. Bates,
Lieut. Clock, Ensign Thomas.

"Edward Cassady, of Capt. Eisenlord's company, being charged with sleeping on his post.

"The said Cassady being brought before the Court, has acknowledged the whole of the charge against him. Therefore, the Court do sentence him to be whipped with 20 lashes on the bare back, agreeable to the 8th Article of the additional Rules and Regulations of the Continental Army.

"I approve of the within sentence, and order that it be put in execution at roll call this evening. JOS. BLOOMFIELD."

After the drummer had tied him to the post, and just going to put the sentence in execution, the following was delivered to me—

"Lieut. Elmer—You are hereby directed to postpone the punish-

ment of Edw. Cassady until next Monday evening, when you will see that the sentence of the Court Martial is put in execution.

"JOS. BLOOMFIELD, Commanding Officer."

"August 3d, P. M."

Mounted guard after this, ran round the stakes, drank our losings, and then retired to rest.

Sunday, August 4th, 1776.—Got up this morning later than usual, it being the day appointed by God himself for rest to man and beast; but instead of devoting in a way agreeable to his word and ordinance, it is spent by most of us in a trifling, unprofitable manner. Mr. Caldwell and Mr. Kirtland being absent from here, we had no preaching nor any duty except roll call, morning and evening. The Senecas, in particular, devote the Sabbath to dancing and singing and hooting; the Oneidas and some of the others in singing of psalms, hymns and other kinds of worship, some way according to the mind and will of God. In the afternoon, was some time in company with Capt. Bloomfield and Lt. Gifford, with whom I had considerable dispute respecting Capt. Dickinson, our rank, &c. But I told him as I think I have reason to, that I have never received any favors from him, therefore owe him no thanks, nor court his favor.

"GERMAN FLATS, *Aug. 4th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—SENECA.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Bates."

Monday, August 5th, 1776.—Arose at reveillee beating and turned out the fatigue party to labor. Wrought till breakfast, and then did my other duty in attending the sick, making out guards, entering reports, &c. In the afternoon came in about 100 Sachems and Warriors of the Seneca tribe painted off in their warlike manner.

"GERMAN FLATS, *Aug. 5th*, 1776.

"All Sutlers and retailers of liquors in and about German Flats, are hereby strictly directed not to sell any strong or mixed liquors to any persons whatsoever during the treaty, unless sold by leave and drank in the presence of an officer.

"By order of Major General Schuyler.

"JOS. BLOOMFIELD."

"PAROLE—TUSCARORA.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Cannon.

"Officers of fatigue to-morrow, Capt. Eisenlord, Lieuts. Gifford and Bates."

Col. White, Capts. Patterson and Ross came down here from Fort Schuyler, formerly called Fort Stanwix.

Tuesday, August 6th, 1776.—Arose at the usual hour and destined a party to go into the woods, and others to set up what pickets were got ready—labored till breakfast.

The General sent for me to-day to come and bleed some Indians, which I accordingly did. I have a number of them to bleed almost every day. The disorders to which they are subject appear to be mostly of an inflammatory nature; but I have not been able to find out many of their complaints. Very warm day.

"German Flats, *August 6th,* 1776.

"Parole—Sidney.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Clock.

"Officers of fatigue, Capt. Vosburg, Lieut. Pendleton and Ensign Thomas."

In the evening it rained very considerably, and proved wet all night.

Wednesday, August 7th, 1776.—Arose and set the men for the woods to preparing therefor; the others were destined to exercise, as there was no work for them and the treaty to begin.

After breakfast the General sent for all the officers to come down and wait upon him at the treaty. Accordingly we all went, except the officer of the day and one other left to exercise the men.

The General and the two other Commissioners, viz: Messrs. Dow and Edwards sat fronting the Indians under a shade, behind whom all the officers, &c., were placed; and the Indians on the other side with a fire between them. After all the Sachems and Warriors were gathered together, the General got up and opened the treaty with informing them of the design, which was to know whether the Six Nations were determined to interfere in the quarrel between the United States of America and Great Britain; and, if so, what part they would take. Mr. Dean was made use of to interpret the speeches to an Oneida, who delivered it to the rest. After two short preparatory speeches with two belts, the General proceeded to deliver the whole charge against them—particularizing six different instances wherein they had broken the covenant chain by which they bound themselves to each other at Albany last summer.

After the speech was over, the Mohawk Chief got up and said they acquiesed in what was said, thanked the Commissioners for their plainness, and that they would consider of it until to-morrow, when they would answer it. The General then invited them all to sit and take a drink and smoke a friendly pipe before they parted, which they were very fond of complying with—so we parted good friends for the first

time. Went home and got dinner, visited some of the sick, and was called to the Indians, whom I bled a number of.

Thursday, August 8th, 1776.—Dr. Read and Jos. Anderson came up from Johnstown to hear of the treaty and see the sick. The day was warm, which I spent in seeing the sick among the soldiers and visiting the Indians, among which was a son of Thomas, an Oneida Chief. At evening after guard, I was sent for by the General to go and see a young Indian lady, daughter of Schokara, a brother of Thomas, and himself a Chief, who had been knocked down by a Seneca with a stone. I accordingly went and found a great number round her in her hut crying and weeping greatly. I was led into her by Thomas, who assisted me in examining her. I found the cranium was cracked by the violence of the stroke in the os frontis just above the temple suture. I washed the wound and bound it up as well as I could and then returned to my tent. The Indians were very busy all day in Council, but did not get ready to make their reply this day.

Friday, August 9th, 1776.—The daily alarm, ere Aurora had arisen above the horizon, aroused me from my bed of earth, and warned me to repair to labor.

The Indians were setting in Council very demurely to-day. No people on earth, I believe, are more solemn and serious in their councils than these people. No interruption nor any wrangle is heard among them, but all serious and solemn.

In the afternoon, the Indians, after sitting all day, gave information they were ready to speak; upon which the General sent for us and we attended him there, when the Mohawk Chief got up, and, in behalf of the Six Nations, mentioned over some of the accusations which we had alleged against them, and thanked the General and other Commissioners for their plain dealing. The sun being near setting, he said it was contrary to the custom and doctrine of their ancestors to treat of matters of peace after the day was no more. He, therefore, thought proper to refer the matter until to-morrow morning, which the Commissioners agreed to, and invited them to sit and take a drink before they parted, which they are very willing always to comply with.

"German Flats, *August 9th,* 1776.

"Parole—Morristown.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Ensign Kinney.

"Officers of fatigue, Capt. Eisenlord, Lieut. Bates and Ensign Thomas."

Saturday, August 10th, 1776.—After the fatigue party were turned out at the usual call, the officers and a number of us pitched a match

at ball; at which I stripped and run so that I caught a bad cold, which fetched on an ague, pain in my bones, a rheumatism of the knees, &c., which disabled me so I was not capable of doing duty this evening—did, however, attend the treaty some time, when the Mohawk Chief, called Abraham, briefly recapitulated over the General's speech, and in a very slick and artful manner excused themselves of every accusation laid against them, and finally declared they were wholly for peace and would not take up the hatchet against us upon any account.

Being unwell and having a detail of the guard to make out, I left the treaty and repaired to my tent; as soon as I had got there, the Indians sent for me to visit a number of them which I bled, &c.

"German Flats, *August* 10*th*.

"Parole—Salem.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Salsburry,"

Sunday, August 11*th*, 1776.—Very wet morning, which greatly increased my disorder, yet I was obliged to wait on the Indians and bleed a number of them.

This day was spent by the officers in camp in a very loose and profane manner. Instead of devoting it to the service of God, they spent it in profaning his holy name and ordinances, which was very disagreeable to me, as I was exceedingly unwell, and always averse to such language.

Major Barber is here very unwell, not able to leave his room, with a nervous fever. In the afternoon Mr. Caldwell gave us a short discourse and prayers, but I was not able to attend. After sermon, Mr. Caldwell and Capt. Bloomfield gave Gifford and me a rally about condemning General Thomas for drumming out the fire ship, as they called it, and for disobeying orders; but I think we acted a good part, therefore value them not.

Monday, August 12*th*, 1776.—Still unwell. Weather dull. Bled the Indians, attended our sick, and went to see Major Barber. Being favored with a sight of Thomas's challenge to McDougal, I shall insert purely for the oddity of it.

"Sir:—As I have the Honor of being in A Company that condescended to receive you in the same Company As a gentleman volunteer, Now, sir, I am to inform you that the Character of a Volunteer has always been held sacred and unblemished, till you was pleased, by your Dastardly, cowardly behaviour, to sulliet. I mnst therefore as a gentleman, Vindicate the Charrcter of a Volutneer—Must therefore insist upon it that you will meet me to-morrow morning at 6

o'clock with a Friend and A Case of Pistols upon the Hill back of your house, to count for your Damn Raskley behaviour for asking a discharge from our Honorable company."

This was written by Col. White, signed and sent in the name of Thomas, and answered by McDougal, and the duel fought accordingly as before stated.

The General, Peter Dow and Timothy Edwards, Commissioners, made a reply to what the Indians had said, and all was concluded in the greatest friendship and the strongest ties of lasting peace, by 13 belts.

Tuesday, August 13th, 1776.—The men labored some at the fort. Lt. Gifford taken exceedingly unwell this afternoon. The Indians held a ball play to day for a considerable prize. Capt. Veeder's and Vosburg's companies ordered to hold themsevles in readiness to march to-morrow morning for Albany in company with the General and Commissioners.

"Parole—General Roberdean.

"Officer of tho day, to-morrow, Lt. Cannon."

Continued unwell all day, yet the Indians are not pacified but by my attending them. Sent in an account to-day to the General of £5 for attending the Indians. Slept in tent as usual, the nights very dewy and wet.

Wednesday, August 14th, 1776.—This morning the men were paraded just after the reveillee beat, to form themselves in readiness to attend upon the General at his departure from this place. Capt. McKean's company ordered to march for Johnstown, and Capt. Sabre's* to join us here, where we are to continue till farther orders. Accordingly the whole paraded; and about 7 o'clock, Capt. McKean's, Veeder's and Vosburg's, marched off; ours, Capt. Eisenlord's and Sabre's formed, in order to salute the General; but I being not very well, did not think it worth my while to turn out; so I did not. After the General had gone away, I became acquainted with a most shocking affair between Lt. McMichael, volunteer Smith, Serjeant Newcastle of our battalion, Alex. Stewart, one Ridley, a clerk of Major Lundie's, and one more, in a secret plot, endeavoring to go off to the enemy, some of whom it is supposed are already gone. Ensign Kinney was immediately sent on express to Col. Dayton at Fort Schuyler, as McMichael set out from here last night with a pretence to go there. How it may turn out I cannot tell, they have without any doubt acted a very dastardly, treacherous and devilish part.

* Sometimes spelt Seeben.

I attended a burial among the Indians this morning. They bury and sing at the grave, much in the same manner as the Dutch.

"GERMAN FLATS, *August* 14*th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—GEN. SCHUYLER.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Sabre.

"Officers of fatigue, Capt. Sabre and Ensign Thomas.

"The guards will hereafter consist of 30 privates and three non-commissioned officers—10 from Capt. Bloomfield's 8 from Capt. Eisenlord's and 12 from Capt. Sabre's companies.

"All Sutlers and retailers of liquors are hereby ordered to remove from German Flats by to-morrow evening. No excuse will be taken for their staying any longer."

I shall now accordingly, as the powers of my soul shall assist me, characterize the officers of our regiment.

Passing by the Field Officers, of which I have before spoken, I shall begin with the Senior Captains.

Capt. Bloomfield—Active, unsteady, fond of show and a great admirer of his own abilities; quick passions, but easily pacified.

Capt. Dickinson—Grave, but familliar; slow but steady; an admirer of himself, but kind and friendly.

Capt. Potter—Grave, solid, steady, robust, familliar, kind, affectionate, but unlearned.

Capt. Patterson—Peaceable, genteel, effiminate, familiar, active and learned.

Capt. Ross—A bold and manly look, but haughty and imperious carriage.

I must even confess I have begun a task I am not capable of going through, must therefore conclude with the words of a Poet—

"In great attempts 'tis noble e'en to fail."

Thursday, August 15*th*, 1776.—The men paraded at the reveillee beat, when the Captain and myself were present, and he undertook to turn out the working party; and after divers kinds of orders, they were all, except a cook from each mess, sent to labor. Our men were set at pulling down the old pickets which were round the church, and others to setting up new ones.

Lt. Daniel Pierson came down this forenoon as an express from Col. Dayton at Fort Schuyler, informing us that Lt. McMichael, with volunteer Smith and Ridley, set out from there yesterday about 12 o'clock, and were no doubt making the best of their way for the enemy. That as soon as Col. Dayton became acquainted with the matter by Mr. Kinney, which was almost night, he offered a reward

of twenty dollars a head for them, dead or alive. Upon which Capt. Reading, Lieut. Loyd and Bellard, with about 30 men, set out immediately upon the scout after them; after which he came away.

"GERMAN FLATS, *August* 15*th*, 1776.

"PAROLE—DAYTON.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Clock.

"Officers of fatigue, Lieuts. House, Cannon and Elmer."

Visited the sick, which are considerable; gave Major Barber some Cort: Peru: as he gets no better yet. There was a small ball play this evening. Ensign Kinney returned from Fort Schuyler this evening with no farther news than we had before received from Lt. Pierson. Had an alarm in the night. The sentry, it is supposed, fired at a drunken Indian, but did not hit him.

Friday, August 16*th*, 1776.—About 12 o'clock an express arrived here from Col. Dayton at Fort Schuyler, informing us that Lt. Loyd, who commanded the party sent to the Lake, arrived there just as McMichael and his confederates had embarked to cross; they fired several guns to no effect, and there being no craft that they could get, were obliged to quit the pursuit. We are further informed, that Serjeant Younglove, with his party on the scout, were attacked about six miles this side of Oswego on their return from thence by about 10 Indians. The Indians fired upon them, but their guns were so wet they could get none of them off except one, which did no execution. A ball took Serjeant Aitkins, of Capt. Potter's company, in the body, upon which he fell, crying out, "I am a dead man, but do not fly, if your guns will not go off, rush on them with your bayonets." After which Mr. Ball, their guide, went down the hill and called out for others to follow him, and they would then endeavor to make a stand. Accordingly two of the men did, but Serjeant Younglove and one other besides the Serjeant wounded, would not. After these three had got down the hill, they heard two guns go off. They then attempted to get to the others, but found the Indians pursuing them; were therefore obliged to make the best of their way off, leaving the others behind, dead or alive they could not tell. They received several shots, but none so as to cripple them. After they left there, they soon fell in with two friendly Indians of the Onondago Tribe, who conducted them safely down to Fort Schuyler.

Almost finished the fort, but could not enclose it for want of some pickets and the gate, carpenters making the gate and about repairing the barn.

Ensign Kinney was despatched expressly to Albany after the news

from Fort Schuyler. Had a small ball play in the afternoon—after which came up a brisk shower of rain. Lt. Gifford and myself struck our tent and moved all our things into the house along with the Captain and Major, pitching the tent within the garrison for the use of the officer of the guard. Our moving into the house consequently threw us into a mess with Capt. Bloomfield. The guard was moved from the church to that part of the barn formerly occupied by the Sutler.

In the night we had two alarms by the sentries firing off guns, as they supposed, at Indians; however, at a certain person or two who kept running round about them and heaving stones, but would not answer when hailed. Scouts were sent all round the camp both times to see if they could find out who was the person, but their search proved ineffectual.

Lodged in the house with Major and Captain—the first night I have lodged in a house for several weeks.

Saturday, August 17th, 1776.—This morning a press warrant was sent out by the Captain for wagons to ride pickets for us to finish the fort. Acordingly, in a short time a great plenty came in. We kept all our men at work loading the wagons and putting them up as fast as they came in, so we concluded enclosing the fortification except the large gate, which is not yet made.

"German Flats, *August 17th*, 1776.

"Parole—Major Barber.

"Officer of the guard, to-morrow, Lt. Gifford.

"The officer will be punctual for the future in attending parade and roll call in the fort along with the men morning and evening, except the officer of the guard, who will diligently attend to his duty as officer of the guard.

"The officer of the guard is hereby directed, once every half hour after the beating of the tattoo until the reveillee, to call the sentry at the guard house, alls well. The sentry next him to pass the call to the next senttry on the right, and so on from sentry to sentry until the whole have cried "alls well."

Still troubled with a laxity and debility of body, which so enfeebles me I am hardly capabte of stirring about. Towards evening a man living in the Jerseys came here on his way home from Fort Schuyler. He brings word that the two men which McMichael took from the returning scout of Ensign Clerk's (whom he told that he was going to Oswego by order of Col. Dayton to burn it down, and that he should take more men if he should meet them,) were returned, leaving

him on the Oneida Lake; that the pursuers were so nigh when they embarked, that McMichael pulled off with great vigor. They being in another canoe, received several fires from the scout over their heads; that after the scout was gone, they wondered McMichael did not stay, and he continuing on with speed, they began to mistrust whether something was not the matter, and that it was our men who fired on them. They therefore concluded to return, for which they were exceeding glad when they found out the plot.

Lt. Gifford being unwell, I was obliged to take the guard in his place, which I visited frequently in the night, giving him strict orders not to fire upon any Indian till he was fully convinced they designed his life.

Slept all night in the tent pitched by the barn for the officer of the guard.

Sunday, August 18th, 1776.—This day, tho' the Lord's, by his setting his prerogative over it, we devoted to labor in levelling the fort and cutting and burning the wood round it. About 9 o'clock, A. M., Major Barber set out for Fort Schuyler, Capt. Bloomfield going along to accompany him as far as Thompson's, where he expects to put up for the first night.

"German Flats, *August 18th*, 1776.

"Parole—Capt. Bloomfield.

"Officer of the guard, to-morrow, Lt. Sabre. Guards as usual."

A thick and gloomy melancholy seems to hang upon my spirits to-day. * * * * The day is the Lord's; but the manner in which we spend it is entirely foreign to his service and wholly devoted to servile labor, hurry, tumult and noise.

Just at evening Capt. Bloomfield returned from accompanying Major Barber, who he left about 7 miles this side Oreskey. We had some dispute about one thing or another, and at length went to rest.

Monday, August 19th, 1776.—Turned out the fatigue party and set them to work; began to dig a ditch without the pickets to-day. Some men being employed in the woods preparing timber for the gate, but they did not get it hauled. Received a letter by Jno. Nutter, who returned from Albany to-day, from Jas. Ramsay and another from Hannah Seeley—all well at home. Letters were dated 1st July. Just as the forces were turning out from there for New York. Wrote letter to Capt. Ogden, Kelsay, Ensign Peck and Col. Newcomb. Capt. Sabre returned to-day, after his going home to see his friends Quite lame with my hand.

The following cure for the Flux is taken out of the Constitutional Gazette for August 14th, and said to be infallible:

"Let the patient take half or a quarter of a gill of good rum, brandy or rye liquor, as his strength will admit, and as much good oak or hickory ashes as will thrice cover the point of a common table knife; mix the quantity of ashes and liquor well together, and take that dose morning and evening for several days, observing during the time not to eat any meat or any broth made of meat, but may freely use any other kind of food. Water is the best drink; but let a crust of bread or hot coal be first put into it, or a small quantity of spirits. Wrap a piece of flannel or other woolen cloth round the belly to keep it warm; the rest of the body as cold as the patient pleases."

Mr. Kinney returned about 11 o'clock this evening from Albany. We are to continue here for the present to garrison this place.

Tuesday, August 20th, 1776.—Our men were set to building bark huts to sleep in within the garrison whilst the barn is repairing. Alex. Simson, a Sutler, who has been among us some time, was apprehended this morning by the General's orders, and examined concerning things concealed, taken from Johnson Hall. He acknowledged he had sent some goods to one White at Schenectady, which he bought of Serjeant Fitzsimmons, and which he believed Fitzsimmons took from the Hall: whereupon Simson was ordered under guard to Albany, he requesting Lt. Clock to accompany him: it was agreed to.

Wrote a letter to Abijah Holmes, Q. M. in Col. Newcomb's regiment, to Jas. Ramsay and Hannah Seeley, the substance of which is no way material. Fourteen Tories were taken up the other day on this river by our people. They had ten day's provisions packed up for their march; and by examing i to the matter, it appeared that Sir John had wrote to them to meet him in the Oswegacha path, where he would provide them with provisions to convey them safe. They were sent immediately down to Albany—God keep them there till their hearts grow better.

At guard mounting I was obliged to take charge of the guard. Lt. Gifford continued so unwell, he was not able to mount. Gave the sentries particular orders concerning the Indians and the usual cry, all is well, to sound among them. I lay down to sleep about 11 o'clock.

Wednesday, August 21st, 1776.—Was aroused just before day with an alarm caused by a sentinel firing; upon which I got up, paraded the guard, and sent off the Serjeant with a party to inquire into the cause of the alarm. He found the sentinel was frightened by a hog,

or something walking about among the weeds, &c., under the hill, and its not answering when called to, caused him to fire at it, but did not kill. After finding the alarm not well grounded, I dismissed the guard and lay down again.

Lt. Gifford being unwell, lazy, dull and heavy for several days, now begins evidently to show his disorder proceeds from some obstructions in the biliary ducts, and that a jaundice is fast advancing. I having no means, sent for Dr. Petre, a German. When he came he ordered an emetic of Tart. Emet. to be taken this afternoon. To-morrow morning a dose of Rhei, and the following directions:

"After you have taken the portion of Rhei, take a quart of porter and a handful of bitter herbs, (such as wormwood and rue,) put the porter and herbs on a fire, and set it well warm, then strain it off, and take a gill three or four times a day."

"*August* 21*st*, 1776.

"PAROLE—FORT DAYTON.

"Officer of the day, to morrow, Capt. Sabre.

"Officer of fatigue, Capt. Eisenlord.

"Capt. Bloomfield's and Sabre's companies will hereafter turn out for fatigue party 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal, and 12 Privates, each; and Capt. Eisenlord's company 1 Serjeant, 1 Corporal and 6 Privates, who will diligently attend the work ordered by the officer of the fatigue party. The fatigue party will turn out for work at 6 in the morning.

"The guard will hereafter consist of 1 Serjeant, 2 Corporals and 24 Privates, equally from each company; guards by night, 8 by day 5.

"These companies, except those on guard and fatigue, will duly attend exercise at the beat of the drum at 5 in the afternoon.

"No officer or soldiers after 23d of this month will be suffered to sleep out of garrison under penalty of the 9th additional article of war."

This day we erected the large gate at the entrance of the fort, and enclosed the pickets; after which we erected a Liberty Pole in the north corner with a flag, on which was drawn in capital letters Fort Dayton and Liberty on one side, Property on the other. Although the day was wet, a heavy shower falling in the morning, yet, after we had the fort enclosed, the men were all loaded and called under arms, when a large quantity of grog was brought out, the lines all manned and I commanding the guard, gave the signal to fire by firing a pistol, when the whole discharged their guns through the port holes. After which they were again formed up, the liquor presented and Capt.

Bloomfield drank success to Fort Dayton, hoping that if ever it be attacked by our enemies, we may be able to put them all to flight; and the whole drank, giving three hearty cheers, after which there was drinking, scouting round the fort, hurrahing, swinging of hats and hawbucking about for an hour, when they were drawn up in a square, and the Captain gave them a smart preachment, pulling off his hat and beginning with

"Friends, Counnrymen and Fellow-Citizens—

"Little did I think that I should address you to-day; but after making merry our hearts upon this occasion, I feel an impulse of mine to speak to you which I am not able to withstand. Many of you, my Cumberland lads, have travelled with me from your native homes 500 miles into this wilderness in this glorious cause of liberty."

Much more of the like kind was uttered, and he added that, as he had the honor of commanding at the erecting of this fortification, and expected to still continue the command, he should therefore make it his study to cultivate harmony and concord so necessary among officers, and the love, esteem and respect of the soldiers, which was a great matter; and he could say with a degree of pleasure, yea of pride, that he had hitherto by his humane, kind behaviour, gained the love and esteem of his own company and doubted not but by his like kindness, he should likewise gain the regard of the other soldiers; and thus be harangued, swinging and flirting about for near half an hour, concluding with a wish for their safe return.

After which we had guard mounting, and allotting the proper persons for to-morrow's fatigue. Several persons drank tea with us, and after tattoo retired to rest.

Thursday, August 22d, 1776.—Got up at six and turned out the working party according to order, when the men began to put up the scaffolds for the sentinels to stand upon.

How stupid! How insensible are most of us grown! wallowing in sin and swimming in iniquity without ever considering the evil and abominable nature thereof—pleading for our excuse our inability to save or help ourselves; and that every power, will and inclination within us proceeds from God only. Even if we suppose this—that we are wholly destitute of any supernatural principle—yet sure we are capable of some considerations which may be of force to persuade us to a reformation, and in God's way bring about salvation. If the inward deformity and heinous nature of sin cannot affect us, at least we may be frightened by those dreadful consequences that attend it. That same selfish principle which pushed us forward into the pursuit

of sinful pleasures, will make us loath to buy them at the rate of everlasting misery. Thus we may encounter self-love with its own weapons, and employ one natural inclination for repressing the exorbitance of another.

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"*August* 22*d*, 1776.

"PAROLE—CAPT. ROSS.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Capt. Eisenlord.

"Officer of fatigue, Lieut. Sabre. Guard as yesterday."

Artificers employed at Fort Dayton now, are the following—

Masons—Street Maskell, of Captain Bloomfield's company, and —— Stone, of Capt. Eisenlord's.

Carpenters and Joiners—Peter Birney, Ezekiel Brayman, John Jones and Wm. Smith, of Capt. Bloomfield's company, with two from Capt. Sabre's, each of which artificer have two shillings per day surplus money allowed them, with tenders sufficient.

In the evening of the 16th instant, I had a long dispute with Major Barber upon some points in Divinity. His notions therein are something singular, shall therefore insert some of them.

He acknowledges a supreme being: that he is the Creator, upholder and universal governor of the universe; and that he not only permits, but orders and directs every incident that happens among men. He particularly ordered the fall of mankind; and that unless he order it, man is no more capable of sining than of doing good without the divine aid or particular influence of God; thereby he makes God to be the author of sin as well as righteousness. But why he, that is God, should order and direct sin to enter into the world, thereby making the human race miserable, he says it is best known to himself for the display of his divine attributes. That man has neither will or ability to extricate himself from his state of death, and that those who go in a state of profanity and sin, are in the most hopeful way of meeting the divine aid or power exerted on his soul; that it is all a farce for men or priests to persuade men from vicce or evil practice, as man cannot save himself, they have nothing to do but follow the inclinations of their will; and if God designs mercy for them, he will so alter and renew their wills and dispositions that they shall, in following them, follow the divine law and do the will of God, their Creator and Redeemer. This, he says, by a careful attention to Scripture, he finds to be the drift of it.

In the afternoon at 5, we went out upon parade to exercise the cooks

and such of the men as are not upon guard or fatigue. Exercised about an hour and dismissed the men; soon after which we had roll call and guard mounting.

Friday, August 23*d*, 1776.—My birth-day. Weather cool. Got up at 6 and turned out the working party. About noon we attended the burial of one of Capt. Sabre's company at this place. The whole were armed, 6 only loaded, who went down to where they stopped to sing psalms: the officers were likewise ordered down by Capt. Bloomfield, when we marched up by the corpse, the men being paraded and resting upon their arms, who shouldered and followed after. They sung whilst he was being buried: after which a volley was fired and we went off.

" *August* 23*d*, 1776.

" PAROLE—CAPT. READING.

" Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lieut. Sabre.

" Officer of fatigue, Lieut. Gifford. Guards as usual."

Lieut. Edward Patterson came up here from Schenectady from his brother, Capt. Patterson, who he left there very unwell. Serjeant Seamans, of Capt. Ross's company, who has been home to the Jerseys, was along with him. On his return they put up here, drew provisions, and continued all night.

I have now lived, or continued in this probationary state exactly 24 years, and am just about entering upon a new year. It becomes me, then, to examine with myself what I have done in the last year either for myself, my God or country? How far I have advanced in knowledge, virtue or faith? To enquire likewise into what evils, vices and extravagances I have fallen into within the compass of the last year, and to resolve for the ensuing year to shun or avoid them? A great alteration has taken place in my life. I was then at home in ease, peace and plenty at a far remove from all danger of distress—now 400 miles from home in a wild, inhospitable country engaged in all the clamours, dangers and fatigues of a bloody war: my country all in alarm engaged in one of the grandest and most momentous struggles that ever mortals were engaged in—God grant that ere another year subsides, peace and tranquility may be restored to our land with all its concomitant blessings. May I be enabled to stand forth in its defence like a good soldier; and like a true patriot refrain from all evil and cleave unto the Lord by a thorough and unfeigned repentance and hearty turning unto him; that I may be preserved from all harm, be supported under trials, affiictions and dangers, fatihfully and diligently serve my country and God and be a happy

man, with the asssistance of my fellow-soldiers, in speedily restoring peace to our oppressed land, putting to flight all its enemies, and afterwards return to my native home, in peace and great joy, to spend a series of years yet to come as a good citizen and faithful servant of God; and after the number of my days on earth are finished and my life faithfully worn out in the service of God and my country, may I receive the reward of the good and faithful servant, sleeping in the arms of Jesus, my Divine Redemer, through eternal ages.

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We had a ball play in the evening, guard mounting, &c.

Saturduy, August 24th, 1776.—Our men were set to clearing and cleaning the church, as they have now all left it and removed within the fort in bark huts, made for the purpose.

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Edward Russell, who was sent yesterday to Fort Schuyler, returned this evening with a letter and medicines from Dr. Dunham.

"Fort Dayton, *August 24th*, 1776.

"Parole—Capt. Patterson.

"Officer of the day, to-morrow, Lt. Elmer. Guards as usual."

We had a ball play this evening as the night before. Ensign Dunn returned to the Fort this afternoon. Weather dull, heavy, and some rain. Being on guard, I visited the sentinels and went the rounds till 11 o'clock, when finding peaceable times and the cry, 'all's well,' being prevalent. being something unwell, and the night wet, I went into the house and took my rest.

Sunday, August 25th, 1776.—I went to visiting the sick and administering those medicines before received. We are informed by Russell from Fort Schuyler, that the private left among the Indians with Sergeants Younglove and Aitkin had escaped with a slight wound, running off and hiding till they had all gone off, but after that came near perishing in the woods, being a full week without eating any thing; but through divine assistance was supported and returned safe to his and our great joy. He is not able to determine whether the Serjeants were killed or taken prisoners. The Indians were of the Messasagoe Tribe.

In the afternoon Capt. Hubbard, Pay-Master to a Regiment of Connecticut forces, arrived here, escorted by a number of men from Johnstown, with money, in order to pay off the forces on this river. We spent the evening in jolity and mirth.

Monday, August 26th, 1776.—The morning was cloudy and very like for rain. I, however, got a guard, consisting of Serjeant, Cor-

poral and 12 Privates, in order to escort the Pay-Master up to Fort Schuyler; and about 7 o'clock in the morning we set out, the day proved wet and exceeding bad travelling. We, nevertheless, proceeded on up the river in the most disagreeable circumstances—the weather exceeding wet and the roads miry. The moschetoes were very thick and troublesome, and what greatly added to our trouble and vexation was, that no houses were upon the road in which we might refresh ourselves, nor any spirituous liquors to refresh our tired and drooping limbs. We, however, surmounted all difficulties and arrived at Oreska a little before sunset, having travelled through the woods and rain about 28 miles. Here we put up and endeavored to refresh ourselves as well the circumstances of the place would admit, and after drying ourselves tolerably well and getting something to eat, we laid the money under our heads for a pillow, and tumbled down upon the floor to rest.

Tuesday, August 27th, 1776.—Two Dutch houses standing upon the Oreska creek and sundry Indian huts constitute the Castle at this place, from whence we set out this morning very early, in order to proceed on to Fort Schuyler, the place to which we are bound; and at which we arrived, after marching 12 miles along a blind path through the swamps wet and muddy, about 9 o'clock, A. M., and waited on the Colonel, where Mr. Hubbard put up. By, or in compliance with, his invitation I breakfasted at the Colonel's. After which he, Capt. Hubbard and myself took a walk out to view the Fort—I having got the privilege of a barn for the men to stay in and provisions drawn for them. The Fort is exceedingly well situated. The ditch deep, being the same which was made in the first erecting of it; the glacis being likewise old; the pickets even and low; the gates are strong, without any ravelling to the front; the sally-port leading out into low meadow ground, make it very commodious. Dined with Dr. Dunham, Mr. Norcross, &c., who board at one Roof's, an inhabitant of this place. Had a ball play towards evening, supped with Capt. Potter, and then took up my lodgings in Col. White's markee: being Ensign Kinney's berth.

Wednesday, August 28th, 1776—The morning being dull and cloudy I waited upon the Colonel after breakfast to know whether the guard should return, and finding it his pleasure I went and fixed them off as soon as convenient, it being about 12 o'clock when they marched. Dined with the Colonel, who was exceedingly kind and clever. We drank a glass of wine after eating to cause a more easy digestion. I left them and went about among the officers and men

who were at work. News was brought in by a Dutchman to the Colonel that the Indians and Sir John with some Regulars were at Oswego, and would be down upon us here in a short time. Capt. Hubbard very unwell with a kind of camp dysentery, which detained him from settling his business with the regiment with that despatch which he might, had health been continued with him.

Thursday, August 29th, 1776.—Spent the morning in farther viewing the works and the artificers of every kind, who are daily employed in repairing and building. Farther intelligecce corroborates the acount brought in yesterday of Sir John with his party being on their road to this place, upon which the Colonel ordered all hands to work, and that Major Hubbell, Capts. Reading and Sharp and Ensign Reading, with a party of about 30 men, to set out immediately on the scout to the Oneida Lake; for which they prepared with all speed and marched off about 12 o'clock—after which we had some ball play. I drank tea in the evening with the Colonel, Major Barber and Capt. Hubbard, and afterwards repaired to Col. White's markee and went to rest. Capt. Hubbard continuing still unwell prevented his being prepared to leave this place to morrow.

Friday, August 30th, 1776.—Arose this morning just as the drums began to beat for men to parade for work. The whole were assembled, and all, both officers and soldiers, ordered to diligently attend labor—a very few only excepted for cooks. They labored earnestly all the forenoon; but the scout, consisting of 5 Oneida Indians who were sent some days ago to Oswego, returning with news that no forces of any kind were at Oswego, or on their march from thence, produced in almost every one a languor and disinclination for labor. Major Hubbell, with the scouts who were out with him, likewise returned in the the evening without making discovery of any Indian foes or others. Got information by an Indian from Montreal that the two men which Capt. Sharp lost were taken away by 3 or 4 Indians, who found them without their arms fishing at Fort Bull, and carried directly off as prisoners to Montreal. We are also informed that the Indians were of the Seneca Tribe. He further says, that Sergeants Younglove and Aitkins were wounded and taken prisoners to Oswego, where a Mohawk Indian, being one of their young warriors, tomahawed their brains out. O cruel inhumanity! At evening, being in hopes of Capt. Hubbard being able to return to-morrow, I settled matters, waited on the Captain, he being yet unwell, and then retired to my former lodgings.

Saturday, August 31st, 1776.—Preparing all the morning for our

return. Accordingly, about 10 o'clock A. M., we set out on horseback to return through the difficult road, which we travelled before in the most fatiguing circumstances; but the weather being now tolerably good, which took away much of the disagreeable circumstances which attended it in our march up. We arrived at Oreska and got some refreshment; from thence we proceeded on to Thompson's, where Capt. Lancing, who commands the batteaux, was with his fleet going down the river. After refreshing ourselves there, about sunset we set out and rode down to German Flats, within Fort Dayton, where we found the men nearly the same as when we left it.

Whilst at the Fort above, I was one evening in company with Col. Dayton and Major Barber, who showed me a letter written by a young lady to one Dr. Deas, now in England with Guy Johnson, which was the best I ever saw for the sublime manner in which she extolled his worth, her unworthiness and love for him.

Sunday, September 1st, 1776.—Being Sunday made no impression on our conduct, as we spent it in settling matters, jovial mirth, &c. We had roll call both morning and evening, but no preaching, so that every man did that which seemed right in his own eyes. Capt. Hubbard by fatiguing himself in riding down, brought on a relapse of his troublesome disorder.

Monday, September 2d, 1776.—Got up early and attended in turning out the working party. At 9 o'clock, A. M., a Court Martial was called to try several persons who yesterday misbehaved towards a guard who were sent for them, getting drunk, &c., for which I was obliged to go before they could be got home, which caused a great trouble and uneasiness in garrison. The Court set, and reported something like the following—

At a Regimental Court Martial, held by order of Capt. Bloomfield at Fort Dayton, September 2d, 1776,

Capt. JOHN EISENLORD, President.

Members—Lieuts. William Gifford, James Cannon,
Eben. Elmer, John Dunn.

The Court, after being duly sworn, proceeded to the trial of Jno. Barrett, of Capt. Bloomfield's company, charged as principal in raising a sedition, insulting and striking a Corporal and his guard in the execution of their duty; likewise Isaac Hazleton, Abraham Hazleton, George Hamilton and Minord Outerkirk, as aiders and abetters thereto.

The pleading not guilty, the Court proceeded to the examination of the evidences, when several were called and their evidences noted

down against the prisoners: after which they withdrew, and the Court consulting on the matter were of opinion, that Jno. Barrett is guilty of being principal in raising a sedition on a Corporal and his guard, and that Isaac Hazleton, Abraham Hazleton and George Hamilton, were aiders and abetters thereto, and are therefore beyond the limits of our power to try. No evidence appearing against Minord Outerkirk, he was discharged by the Court.

The men were assembled at 2 P. M., when Governor Bloomfield discharged Charles Cosgrove, who was ordered to be whipped with 78 lashes and drummed out of the army with infamy; likewise all the others tried to-day, except Jno. Barrett. After this I took the men out and exercised them for some time; when hearing that Col. Elmer was coming, I drew up the men in proper order to receive him. Accordingly, towards evening I, hearing the drums, prepared the men, and the Captain went off to meet them. When the Colonel came we saluted him in a proper manner; after which I let the men ground their arms, and was introduced to Col. Elmer, and found him to be a son of Jona. Elmer, brother to my grandfather, Daniel Elmer; likewise several of his officers. The Captains belonging to his regiment are Woodbridge, Walker and Smith, the others I have not yet heard. By these men we received word that the regular army have left Staten Island and removed to Long Island; that General Washington with the whole of the army at New York have gone over the sound in order to attack them, and it is expected they will have a bloody battle before long in that place: God grant they may have success in their undertaking! We likewise received orders by them from General Schuyler to march immediately to join our regiment at Fort Schuyler, for which we are now about preparing. Mounted guard, but put none of our men thereon, on account of their being about shortly to march. We had a drink of toddy with the officers in our room; after which the Captain and myself waited on the Col. to his lodgings at Col. Bellenger's.

Tuesday, September 3d, 1776.—Gave out to our men at roll call cartridges and dismissed them to prepare for their march to-morrow morning.

Little else was done all day but preparing for our march; it, however, was concluded for me to stay behind to take care of the sick, and follow after in a short time. Became acquainted with some of Col. Elmer's officers, along with whom we had a play at whist in the afternoon. The Lieut. Col. came over here this afternoon—his name is brown, Major last year, who commanded at Chamblee. After a

short stay this side, he returned to that part of the regiment stationed on the other side of the river. The evening proved wet and showery. In mirth and jollity we spent the evening, it being the last we expect to be together at this place.

Wednesday, September 4th, 1776.—At revellee beat we all turned out and prepared to march. Accordingly a little after sunrise the men who were to march assembled and set out with Capt. Bloomfield and Lieut. Gifford, giving three hearty cheers. After they were gone I mustered up the wagons and got our luggage down aboard the batteaux, and went as far as the upper end of the flats, leaving them there about 10 o'clock and returned to the flats where the officers were moving their things into the house we left. Dr. Cook is Surgeon to Col. Elmer's Regiment. Went over to the hospital and found left behind the following:—Isaac Hazleton, John Royal, Uriah Maul, Philip Goggin, Peter Sheppard, James Logan, Jos. Rigley, Jon. Lummis, Thos. Parker, Abraham Dorchester, sick and lame; Abraham Hazleton, Wm. Hains, Samuel Potter, Thomas Gibson and Annanias Sayre, who has just got clear of the small pox, and Richard Burch his nurse, besides Reed Sheppard and Daniel Ireland.

Orders were given by Col. Elmer out to-day for roll call and guard mounting to be performed at 8 o'lock A. M. That fifty men, equally from each company, be drafted out to-morrow for fatigue in enlarging the fort. Exercise was attended to by them at 4 P. M., when Lieut. Hewes exercised them.

Thursday, Sept. 5th, 1776.—Went over to the hospital to attend the sick, administering such remedies as I found their situation needed. After which I went to see the working party, who were under the direction of Capt. Walker, who acts as Engineer, being acquainted with that business, and one subaltern, appointed to attend the fatigue party. They were employed in filling up the ditch at the south-east side of the fort in order to level it, as they intend enlarging the fort to a considerable extent. Had considerable conversation with Col. Elmer, who appears to be a free, familiar man, and old soldier. The Colonel and most of the other officers went over the river to dine with the Major and others. P. M. Lieut. Edward Patterson came down express from Col. Dayton at Fort Schuyler, bringing a letter from the Oneida Chiefs, who inform us that 700 Indians and whites have just come down from Oswegacha to Oswego; that they expect more in a short time and threaten them very hard because they will not take up the hatchet against the country; that they keep scouts

continually out and are to distress the inhabitants and all other people on the Mohawk river killing and taking prisoners all they can find; that in particular Col. Herkemer and Major Fonda are to fall victims to their fury. Walter Butler they say commands the party, and they desire their compliments to all the officers and great men on the river hoping they will act with caution and assist them if distressed.

The Lieutenant had likewise a letter to Major General Schuyler, and shifting horses proceeded down to Albany.

Reports mention an engagement happening on Long Island between the King's troops and our men; that two of our generals were taken prisoners in attempting to force their lines.

I took board whilst I contiuue at this place at the house where Capt. Eisenlord and his officers board.

Friday, September 6th, 1776.—By Mr. Patterson, who came here yesterday, we hear that McMichael was killed on this month after he passed over the Lakes, by the same Indians who killed Younglove and Aitkin, taking him to be a spy—a very just end for such a traitor to come to.

Visited the sick, &c., this day. A dispute happening among Capt. Sabre's company, pleading that they had a promise from the Captain and officers of being free at the end of six months, which was now expired, they therefore grounded their arms and were determined not to take them up. Their enlistments, however, specified during the option of the Congress. Upon which Col. Elmer ordered a Court of Inquiry to set as soon as possible. Accordingly about 12 o'clock we set and drew up as follows:

At a Court of Enquiry held at Fort Dayton September 6th, 1776, to enquire into a dispute arisen between Capt. Sabre and his soldiers respecting the time for which they were enlisted—

Major ROBERT COCHRAN, *President.*

Members:

Capt. Theodore Woodbridge,	Capt. Parmelee,
Capt. David Smith,	Capt. John Eisenlord,
Lieut. Samuel Webb,	Lieut. Nehemiah Rice,
Lieut. James Cannin,	Lieut. Eben. Elmer.

After the Court were duly sworn, we proceeded to examine the evidences on the case, but concluded on the whole to defer the Court till to-morrow at 8 o'clock, that more evidences might be brought on the affair.

Playing of ball and other like matters, viewing the works, &c., took up the remainder of the day.

By express from Col. John Nicleson, commanding at Johnstown, we learn that Capt. McKean, out upon a scout, discovered some enemy to the northward of Hudson's Bay; that he endeavored to find their route and was fully persuaded they intended to go to Socandoga; but they soon fled as he supposed upon discovering them.

Saturday, September 7th, 1776.—The day proved showery and dull. At nine the Court met according to adjournment, when several other evidences were produced on each side, which the Court duly weighed and considered; after which they came to the following resolves:

1. That the men are holden by their enlistments during the option of Congress, notwithstanding any promise of the officers to the contrary.

2. That Capt. Jacob Sabre has made some arrangements whilst enlisting inconsistent with his instructions from Congress.

Spent the day in visiting the sick and other business here left me, after the Court Martial broke up. The fatigue party were laboring digging a trench, round the enclosed fortification. Towards evening the Colonel came over and had the whole of Capt. Sabre's company paraded, except about half a dozen, who have gone off and left us. He proposed to them to stay in garrison under his command without being particularly in company with their officers, to which they all consented, promising to do duty here; accordingly upon which they were set to work.

(*To be continued.*)

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